

City of Wenatchee's



2021 Consumer Confidence Report



**The primary mission of the City of Wenatchee's
water utility is to ensure safe and reliable
drinking water to all of our customers.**



Welcome to the City of Wenatchee's Water Quality Report

The following is information about our drinking water.

Our Drinking Water Source:

Wenatchee, East Wenatchee Water District and the Chelan County PUD. Aquifers, such as the Eastbank Aquifer, act as a natural filter and underground storage for water. The Eastbank Aquifer is recharged by the Columbia River, and as indicated by the high quality water it produces, the aquifer is an excellent filter. The aquifer currently supplies an average of 10.5 million gallons per day to Wenatchee Valley residents.



The City operates the water utility under regulations set forth by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Public Water Supply ID# 943507. To ensure that safe drinking water is delivered everyday to your home, the City of Wenatchee administers a number of programs required by the DOH including Cross Connection Control, Water-Use Efficiency, and Wellhead Protection. While the Eastbank Aquifer has been rated as having low susceptibility to contamination, all of these programs work together to maintain high quality water every day.

City of Wenatchee Drinking Water Treatment:

Chlorination is the only treatment required for the City of Wenatchee's drinking water. Chlorine is added at the source and acts as disinfectant to protect against harmful levels of bacteria. The chlorine levels are regularly monitored at the source and throughout the water system. During 2020 the average chlorine in the water was 0.27 ppm. In 2020 the lowest value within the system was 0.12 ppm and the highest value was 0.39 ppm.

If you are sensitive to the taste or odor of chlorine, try placing a pitcher of tap water in your refrigerator overnight before drinking it, this will allow the chlorine to dissipate.



What You Pay For Your Water

2021 Water Service Charges		
For Single Family Residence, Duplex and Multi-Family		
Meter size	Monthly Minimum Charge	Consumption Rate (per 100 Cubic Feet*)
¾"	\$13.91	\$2.25
1"	\$24.74	\$2.25
1 ½"	\$42.02	\$2.25

* 100 Cubic Feet is equal to 748 gallons

By comparison:

100 cubic feet of bottled water
(at \$0.99/20 oz.) would cost \$4,739.33



ATENCION: Este documento contiene información muy importante referente a su agua. Por lo tanto deseamos compartir los resultados. Fue aprobado por los Departamentos del Estado y Gobierno Federal, pasando todas las pruebas para el año 2020 y calificó como saludable y apta para nuestro consumo. Si necesita más información, por favor llamar a la ciudad, al teléfono 888-6200 y con mucho gusto contestaremos sus preguntas.



Information About Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more dissolved metals, such as lead, it may contain.

Our Water: The City of Wenatchee monitors for lead and copper following the Department of Health requirements. The size of our system dictates that 30 homes are tested every 3 years. The homes selected for testing are the most vulnerable to lead and copper corrosion. Our last round of sampling was in September 2020. All samples were well below the action level for both lead and copper. For the latest results please see the data table included in this report. If you have questions about the City's drinking water please call us at (509) 888-3228.

To help reduce potential exposure to lead:

- For any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. You can use the flushed water for watering plants, washing dishes, or general cleaning.
- Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead.



If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The Washington State Department of Health has additional information on how to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water on their web site.
(www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/Contaminants/Lead)

Other potential sources of lead:

- Soil - especially in areas that were previously orchards, lead dust can be tracked indoors.
- Paint - Older homes may have lead paint. Lead paint was banned from commercial use in 1978. It is especially a problem when the paint is peeling, cracked, or chipped and during renovations.

LEAD & COPPER RULE

Using lead pipes or lead in plumbing materials was prohibited in 1986. The lead pipes installed prior to that date still provide one of the largest sources of lead in drinking water across the country. Brass or bronze faucets and fixtures installed before 1986 also have the potential to contaminate drinking water with lead.

To protect human health, by reducing the exposure to lead and copper in drinking water, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) first published the Drinking Water Lead and Copper Rule in 1991. The EPA recently revised the Lead and Copper Rule focusing on removing lead service lines (the pipes that connect the home or business to the water main in the road) and testing drinking water in schools. The EPA is in the process of collecting additional input, the revisions are planned to take effect on December 16, 2021.

It was not standard practice to install lead service lines in the City of Wenatchee. The oldest record of a service line connection in Wenatchee is from 1903. However, lead parts (lead goosenecks) were sometimes used with galvanized steel pipes until around the 1930's when the City switched to installing copper service lines. After the switch to copper any time lead parts were found they were replaced. Many were replaced with a short section of copper pipe in the 1930's and 1940's when the City replaced wooden water mains with cast iron water mains. Now the City uses CTS poly (plastic) pipe when a new service line is installed.

Water Quality Results

The following table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected in our water during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The table also lists contaminants that were not detected but may be of interest to the consumer.

Substance	Result	Violation	Sample Date	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Likely Sources
At the Groundwater Source - EPA Regulated						
Fluoride (ppm)	<0.2	No	2019	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	0.17	No	2020	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits, Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks
Turbidity (NTU)	<0.2	No	2019	1	N/A	Presence of suspended/colloidal materials
At the Groundwater Source - State Regulated						
Conductivity (umhos/cm)	170	No	2019	700	700	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (mg/L)	73.6	No	2019	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
In the Distribution System						
Total Coliform (# of positive samples)	0	No	2020	1	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform & E. coli (# of positive samples)	0	No	2020	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Chlorine (ppm)	0.27	No	2020	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
In The Distribution System	Average Result/ Range	Violation	Sample Date	MCL	MCLG	Likely Sources
Total Trihalomethane (ppb)	5.8 5.2 - 6.4	No	2020	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids –HAA5 (ppb)	2.1 1.2 - 3.0	No	2020	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
At the Customer's Tap	90th percent value	Violation	Sample Date	Action Level	Number of sites sampled	Likely Sources
Copper (ppm)	0.621	No	2020	1.3	30	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2	No	2020	15	30	Corrosion of household plumbing

- Not all compounds are tested every year. State and Federal regulations dictate which contaminants the City must test for and how often. The results presented above represent the most current data for the source and the water system. All testing was performed by state certified laboratories. The City meets or exceeds the testing frequency required.
- In 2015 the source water was tested for 43 synthetic organic contaminants which included herbicides, PCB's, pesticides, and many other chemicals and in 2020 the source water was tested for 60 volatile organic chemicals, such as solvents and petroleum products. None of these potential contaminants were detected in the drinking water.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Water Quality Questions or Concerns - (509) 888-3235

Water Bill Questions - (509) 888-3600

Schedule to Have Your Water Shutoff for Repairs - (509) 888-3600

Chelan Douglas Health District - (509) 886-6400

After Hours Emergency Water Phone Number - (509) 665-2236

GET INVOLVED

The Wenatchee City Council meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 5:15 pm in the Council Chambers. Council Chambers are on the second floor of City Hall, located at 301 Yakima Street in Wenatchee.

The City Council meetings are broadcast live on the City's YouTube channel "Wenatchee TV".

Definitions for the Table

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper 90th Percentile: Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Maximum Contaminant Levels are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is

convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

N/A: Not applicable.

ND: Not Detected

NTU: Stands for Nephelometric Turbidity Unit which is the unit of measure for the clarity of water.

ppb: Parts of contaminant per billion parts of water, also the same as micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts of contaminant per million parts of water, also the same as milligrams per liter.

Umhos/cm: micromhos per centimeter, the unit of measure for the ability of water to carry an electric current.

July is Smart Irrigation Month!

July is a peak month for outdoor water use and a good time to make sure you're using your irrigation efficiently!

- **Check your system for leaks!** A leaking sprinkler head can waste thousands of gallons of water, costing you money.
- **Direct sprinkler heads away from paved surfaces!** Water hitting the pavement won't make it grow and the runoff from sprinklers carries chemicals, bacteria, sediment, and other pollutants into the stormwater system and the Columbia River. Watering gardens by hand can prevent overspray and direct water to areas that need it the most, this can reduce overwatering and water consumption.
- **Water during the coolest times of day!** Watering when it's hot can result in losing approximately 1/3 of the water you're using to evaporation, causing you to use more water.

Small actions can make a big difference in protecting local water ways from pollution and your water consumption. The Master Gardeners can also provide information on lawn care, irrigating home gardens and planning landscapes that are Eastern Washington friendly. Search for Master Gardeners on the internet or call (509) 667-6540.



Indoors: Pick a week to check for leaks!

- A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons of water per day. Fixing the leak will make a noticeable difference to your water bill.
- A faucet or hose dripping at 1 drip per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water every year.
- When you replace appliances look for WaterSense and Energy Star labeled models to save water and electricity.



Water Use Efficiency - Annual Report Summary

The City of Wenatchee is required to submit an Annual Water Use Efficiency Report to the Washington State Department of Health every year by July 1st. This report provides information about the amount of water the City purchased from the Regional System, how much was sold to customers and how much was lost to leakage.

The City's goal is to reduce distribution system leakage to 10% or less by December 31, 2024. The distribution system leakage for 2020 was calculated to be **15.8 %** and the resulting 3-year average was **15.1 %**. We are working to reach this goal by implementing a water loss control plan within our system. The City has known leakage at two of the concrete reservoirs. They are being monitored and work to replace one of the reservoirs is scheduled to begin in 2025.



Based on the public input that was received through outreach efforts, the Wenatchee City Council adopted a customer water usage goal of reducing residential water use to 125 gallons per capita per day by December 31, 2024. At the time that the goal was set the average daily use was 135 gallons per capita per day. Based on the 2020 water use data, the current average daily water use is 137 gallons per capita per day. This is an increase from 2019, which may be due to the stay home order in response to the pandemic. The City will help our customers reduce this level by providing additional water use efficiency education.

Every Drop Counts!

Drinking Water in the News:

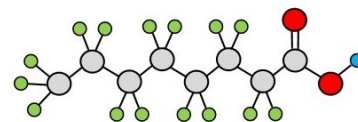
PFAS are Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances,

a large group of human-made chemicals invented in the 1930s. There are over 4,000 chemicals in the PFAS family. PFAS has been used in a variety of consumer products since the 1940s. These chemicals repel oil, water and grease. They are used in creating; stain resistant fabric and carpet, water repellant clothing, non-stick cookware, paper food packaging (like microwave popcorn bags and pizza boxes) and firefighting foams. These chemicals are sometimes referred to as “forever chemicals” because they do not easily break down and can stay in the environment a long time.

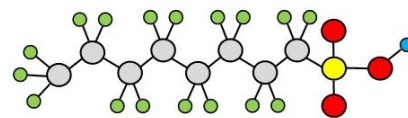
PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFOS (perfluorooctanesulfonic acid) are two PFAS chemicals that are no longer manufactured in the United States. They are still manufactured in other countries and the products can be shipped into the United States. The US switched to using PFBS and GenX chemicals, which are shorter chain members of the PFAS family. These chemicals have found to persist in the environment as well, and are now being studied more extensively. The EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to sample for contaminants that are suspected to be in drinking water. This sampling helps determine if these contaminants should be regulated to protect public health, by finding how wide spread they are and at what concentrations.

Every 5 years monitoring is done across the nation. The UCMR-3 round of sampling included monitoring for 6 PFAS. Wenatchee’s source water was sampled in December 2014 and in June 2015, none of the 6 PFASs were detected in either sample. In 2016 the EPA issued a health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion for drinking water. This level is for the amount of PFOA and PFOS combined.

In March of 2021 the EPA proposed that the UCMR-5 would include 29 PFAS, sampling would be required between January 2023 and December 2025.



PFOA molecule



PFOS molecule

● Fluorine ● Carbon ● Oxygen ● Hydrogen ● Sulfur



General Water Quality Information

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that can occur in untreated water include: microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use, and radioactive materials. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (1-800-426-4791)

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.



EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline **(1-800-426-4791)** or on EPA’s web site at www.epa.gov/safewater.